

W. Christine Abbey-Carlton
114 Silo Springs Rd, Shelbyville TN 37160
(931) 684-9212

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11/12/03

Marlene H. Dortch, Office of the Secretary, FCC
445 12th St. SW
Washington DC 20554

RE: Federal Communications Commission's Notice of Inquiry on the Effects of
Communications Towers on Migratory Birds, WT DKT.NO. 03-187, FCC 03-
205.

Dear Ms Dortch,

I have been hugely concerned with the plight of our birdlife regarding the threats of collision at night with the thousands of communications towers that are cropping up throughout the country. I am writing to urge you implement measures that can avoid the death of so many of our beautiful and necessary migratory birds. I urge you to adopt the guidelines The Fish and Wildlife Service has provided to help minimize these threats. These guidelines include co-location, keeping towers under 200', avoiding guy wires, minimizing lighting, and using only white strobes at minimum required pulse rates. I believe that all agencies of the federal government work together toward the greater good of this country's people and this countries resources, which include our wildlife. We depend on birds as an important insect control predator--if you have been to Guam, where a snake infestation has eliminated the birds, you will see the overwhelming population explosion of spiders and insects that makes life there hugely uncomfortable for every single person no matter how much insecticide is used. And it is amazing how quickly our bird population can dwindle to extinction--witness the millions upon millions of passenger pigeons that flew in our skies in the early 1900s. All of sudden they were gone. That is what we are doing to our birdlife currently with communications towers that don't fit the Fish and Wildlife Service guidelines. By doing what is right for the birds, you will be doing what is right for people, and as a result, it will be right for the communications companies that put up these towers. Despite their initial protests, it will work out best for all concerned in the long run. Please put these measures to place now, before any more damage to our birdlife is done.

Thank you for accepting my comment, I remain sincerely yours,